



Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Assad (second from left) Sunday chairs a seminar commemorating the poet Arar at Yarmouk University.

Irbid celebrates Yarmouk anniversary

IRBID (J.T.) — Yarmouk University will Monday organise a ceremony under Royal patronage in commemoration of Yarmouk battle which took place in the northern parts of Jordan near Irbid in 636 A.D., when Islamic forces led by Khalid Ibn Al Walid beat a Byzantine force in the Yarmouk plains.

According to Dr. Khalid Omari, dean of the students affairs department, the anniversary which is being celebrated by the university for the fifth year will be observed with cultural as well as recreational and sports activities involving students and the local community. Omari said that as usual a torch will be carried from the ancient site of the Yarmouk battle, west of the present Shama Kfarat town, to the Yarmouk University campus, a distance of 25 kilometres. He said that the armed forces and the local community colleges and schools will be involved in the different activities.

This year's celebrations will involve participation of students of the Arab Cooperation Council countries: Egypt, Iraq and North Yemen, as well as students from Oman, Kuwait and Bahrain, according to Omari. He said that the anniversary is

an expression of national pride in the achievements of the Arab ancestors in their defence of the Arab homeland.

On the eve of the occasion, Yarmouk University Sunday opened poetry festival in honour of the late Jordanian poet Mustafa Wahbi Al Tal, better known, by his literary name, Arar. The festival, organised by the university's Jordanian Studies Centre, entails analytical discussion of Arar poetry as well as a general literary discussion of Jordanian theatre, short story and poetry in the second half of the 20th century.

The festival's opening session was addressed by Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Al Assad who outlined the life and poetry work of Arar, and aspects of the late poet's character and personality.

Other speakers included the university President Mohammad Hamdan, Iraqi poet Abdul Wahhab Al Bayyati and Dr. Ahmad Al Oula from the Studies Centre.

The festival, which will last three days, is being attended by a large group of intellectuals and representatives of a number of ministries and local departments as well as researchers in Arabic literature and poetry from Jordan and other Arab states.

Swedish aid official arrives

AMMAN (J.T.) — Lena Wallenstein, director of international training at the Swedish Agency for Technical and Economic Cooperation (SITC), arrived here on an official visit Monday on invitation from the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) in order to follow up and find ways for further development between Jordan and SITC.

Since 1982 different authorities, mainly the TCC, Jordan Electricity Authority, Jordan Railways, Ministry of Agriculture

and Ministry of Transport and Telecommunications, through coordination and supervision of the Ministry of Planning, have sent participants to advanced management training programmes in Sweden. These programmes have been sponsored by SITC.

The expected outcome is to facilitate and further strengthen the relations between Jordan and Sweden as well as find practical solutions to promote management training at TCC.

Cypriot trade team here

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — A Cypriot economic delegation Sunday arrived here on a four-day visit to discuss scopes of cooperation between Jordan and Cyprus.

The delegation, which groups representatives of the Cypriot Ministry of Trade and Industry and 13 different companies, will hold talks with officials at the Ministry of Industry and Trade and the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce aimed at increasing the volume of trade between the two countries.

The delegation will also attend the opening of the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel in Amman of a third Cypriot exhibition of national products.

The four-day exhibition which opens Monday displays samples of Cypriot foodstuff, clothing, machinery and other materials.

Media workshop discussed skills

AMMAN (J.T.) — Latest international media planning skills and techniques were discussed at the second media workshop by Intermarkets in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Media planners from Intermarkets Advertising Agency network attended the workshop. This meeting reminded the participants that it is their responsibility to continue to upgrade the media planning function, setting the standards for the Arab advertising industry to follow.

Participants from: Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Lebanon, U.K., Kuwait, Bahrain and Oman attended.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An art exhibition displaying paintings by children at the Housing Bank Complex.
- ★ A book exhibition at the Wasfi Tal Industrial School, Irbid.
- ★ An exhibition of Jordanian-Soviet stamps at Alia Art Gallery — 8:00 a.m. — 6:00 p.m.
- ★ An exhibition entitled "The Tübingen Atlas of the Middle East" at the Mu'ta University.
- ★ A photography exhibition displaying photos depicting various aspects of life in China at the University of Jordan.
- ★ An art exhibition by Iraqi artist Basim Al Sheikh which includes paintings depicting Jordanian costumes through ages and modern views of Amman at Philadelphia Hall.
- ★ A book exhibition displaying British books on the Islamic world at the University of Jordan.
- ★ An art exhibition by Salma Hamad Al Thani at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ A photography exhibition by Hisham Jweinat at the Professional Associations Complex.

LECTURE

- ★ A lecture by Minister of Supply Fayez Tarawneh on "Food Security" at Al Akh Club, Wadi Sir — 6:00 p.m.

FILM

- ★ A Spanish film entitled "Demons in the Garden," shown as part of the Spanish Film Week, at the Royal Cultural Centre — 8:00 p.m.

Head of Arab Human Rights Organisation:

Human rights, development go hand in hand

By Rania Atalla
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Real political stability and economic growth can only be achieved once human rights are respected, according to Adib Al Jader, head of the Arab Human Rights Organisation (AHRO).

"As long as there is no real respect for human rights there can be no development — economic problems will arise and political stability will never be achieved," Jader, who is in Amman attending a two-day conference on human rights in the Arab World, told the Jordan Times in an interview.

That the beginnings of political stability and development lay in the respect by governments for human rights is a fact accepted by the world at large, Jader said. In the Arab World, "flagrant violations of every aspect of human rights," are still being committed, but there are indications of change — indications which could signal the beginning of the end.

"Improvements (in human rights records among Arab countries) which started very slowly at the beginning, are now picking up," Jader said, adding that both international pressures and efforts of human rights organisations accounted for the change.

Since it was established in December 1983, the Cairo-based AHRO has worked on educating people about their human rights.

Part of its job is to explain to the public in the Arab World all international conventions related to human rights in addition to their country's own laws and con-



Adib Al Jader

siderations. The organisation also attempts to intervene with Arab governments, defending individuals whose rights have been violated. For example, in cases of arrests without lawful reason, or arrests carried out in violation of local laws or international norms, the organisation writes directly to the concerned government in an attempt to put an end to such violations. Provided the concerned government agrees, the organisation sends lawyers to defend individuals whose rights have been violated and in some cases, offers financial assistance to their families.

"Our job is not to carry out political work, and changing regimes is not our task. We are merely a pressure group with a moral weight working through our friends and members, through public opinion, the press and international organisations," Jader said, adding that such pressure was becoming increasingly important in the Arab

World.

The AHRO criteria applied in evaluating human rights records in the Arab World include a government's signing of and adherence to international agreements on human rights, reservations expressed by governments on such agreements, permission granted to human rights organisations to operate in the country in addition to the existence or absence of what Jader called "pluralism in opinion."

The AHRO deals with all sorts of human rights violations in the Arab World — political, economic and cultural — and in Jader's own admission, the organisation faces considerable obstacles.

"We certainly have difficulties with most, if not all, governments, but the situation varies from one country to another," Jader said, adding that the AHRO has official branches in Egypt, Sudan and Lebanon and in countries where it has no official status, it is represented by other human rights organisations. In some countries still, the organisation does not have any contacts at all.

According to Jader, AHRO is negotiating with Jordanian officials the possibility of giving the organisation official status in the country. At present, he said, AHRO has 200 "active members" in Jordan.

Jader said he was neither optimistic nor pessimistic about the human rights situation in the near future. "If we want to develop and have modern societies, we have to pass this stage and in 10 years we have to have achieved a large step," he concluded.

25 cases of AIDS in Jordan — official

AMMAN (J.T.) — The official number of AIDS cases in Jordan now stands at 25 up from 22 in February 1989 with the death toll this year put at three up from two in 1988, according to a Ministry of Health official quoted by the local press.

Most of the cases of AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) were caused by blood transfusion that took place abroad, the official said.

Director of Health Ministry Communicable Disease Department Hani Shammout was quoted as saying that the ministry was expecting AIDS cases in Jordan this year to reach 35.

Dr. Shammout said that two of the present AIDS carriers are likely to die during 1989, but he added that the problem is now under control since the ministry imports no blood and is going ahead with an anti-AIDS campaign through a national committee formed last year. The committee groups representatives of Ministries of Health, Education, Interior, Higher Education and Awqaf and Islamic Affairs as well as the Public Security Department, the Jordanian Bar Association, the General Union of Voluntary Societies and the General Federation of Jordanian Women.

Shammout revealed that meningitis cases are on the increase in the country and the Ministry of Health was carrying out a mass vaccination programme to immunise school students and conscripts against the killer disease.

Shammout revealed that between seven and eight meningitis cases are reported in Jordan every month.

Shammout also said that the Ministry of Health was going ahead with a campaign to provide immunisation against tetanus. The campaign is largely directed against young women and mothers. Shammout said, and noted that the diseases is deadly in 90 per cent of the cases.



LECTURE: Information Minister Hani Khawneh Sunday delivered a lecture at the Police Academy on the principles of Jordan's information policy. Present were senior officers from the Public Security Department and the Police Academy (Petra photo).

GRADUATION:

A new batch of police and security officers specialising in bodyguarding graduated here Sunday at a ceremony attended by Public Security Department (PSD) Director Abdul Hadi Al Majali. The graduates who have just concluded a rigorous training course presented a performance of their skills in shooting at mobile and stationary targets during the graduation ceremony. They later received their diplomas and awards from Lt.-Gen. Majali (Petra photo).



BOOKS, BOOKS: An exhibition of British books on the Islamic world was opened Sunday at the University of Jordan. The exhibition which was opened by the University's Vice President Mahmoud Al Samra includes about 250 titles and aims at acquainting the university's students and teaching staff with the United Kingdom's latest publications on various Islamic topics. The exhibition which is organised by the British Council in Amman is to last for three days.



Minister of Water and Irrigation Ahmad Dakhqan (centre on the rostrum) Sunday presides over an Arab conference convened to discuss water strategy in the Arab World.

12 Arab countries discuss water resources

Conference seeks joint water strategy

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Delegates from 12 Arab countries including Jordan opened a two-day meeting at the University of Jordan Sunday to discuss water resources in the Arab World and means of developing them for domestic, agricultural and industrial uses.

water problems, joint Arab action in water affairs, the sources of the Rivers Nile, Tigris, Euphrates and the River Jordan are to be reviewed.

The two-day meeting was organised by the WRSC, the Ministry of Water and Irrigation, the Higher Council for Science and Technology and the Royal Scientific Society.

Last November, Dakhqan told a regional seminar in Amman, which convened to discuss management of water resources, that the Kingdom was expected to need 266 million cubic metres of water for annual consumption by the year 2005.

He said the Ministry of Water and Irrigation plans to intensify efforts to provide sufficient amounts through prospecting for new sources and through the construction of dams and drilling of additional artesian wells.

Minister of Water and Irrigation Ahmad Dakhqan opened the meeting with a speech noting that Jordan has been striving to handle its water problems, and expressing hopes that the present conference will provide new ideas and pave the ground for inter-Arab cooperation in water-related affairs.

Jordan which has limited water resources attaches great importance to the conference and to a unified water strategy for the Arab World, the minister said.

Dr. Adnan Al Bakht, dean of the scientific research department at the University of Jordan, called on Arab countries to cooperate in water resources exploitation in a bid to avoid any shortages. He said the University of Jordan has established a Water Research and Study Centre (WRSC) in order to help the Kingdom exploit and manage its water resources on a sound basis.

The director of the WRSC Dr. Elias Salameh told the meeting that the Arab World lacks a proper water resources strategy and lacks sufficient water resources to cope with all needs at

all levels. The present water resources are not sufficient for drinking and irrigation and domestic purposes, and therefore close and more serious cooperation should be initiated by the Arab states to deal with the problem, Salameh said.

He said that the meeting is designed to identify the real amounts of water needed for different purposes in the Arab area and ways through which the Arab World can cooperate to develop these resources.

Working papers on water strategy, ways of dealing with

BA links Amman to Gatwick

AMMAN (J.T.) — British Airways has announced its new summer schedule effective March 27, 1989. For the first time Amman would be linked to London Gatwick, the second busiest international airport in the world.

Operating three flights a week — Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, British Airways benefits from using the newest and most modern terminal in Europe — The North Terminal London Gatwick.

Express trains operate every 15 minutes into the centre of London taking only 30 minutes. Geoff Rhodes, BA manager for Jordan, Syria and Lebanon says: "We are proud to be linked to London Gatwick which is close to the heart of London and very much a part of BA successful expansion from the London area. London Gatwick is fast growing with new modern terminals and is developing connections worldwide. We will continue to operate this summer the very popular Tristar."

AGENTS REQUIRED

INTERFAIRS
International Fairs and Services for the Arab World.
organisers of
"THE 15TH MOTEXHA/CHILDEXPO"
26-29 October 1989
the International Fashion and Textile Trade Fair presenting men, women and children's wear, clothing fabrics, home textiles, fashion accessories, toys and child care products to the Arab World in Dubai since 1978.
"THE DUBAI INTERNATIONAL MOTOR SHOW '89"
7-10 November 1989
The International Fair for the Motor Industry in the Middle East Region.
"GIFTEX"
2-5 May 1990
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FRENCH CULTURAL CENTRE

Registration is now open at the French Cultural Centre for the following courses:

- French language courses for adults (all levels)
- Preparation courses for the exams at Sorbonne University (Paris)
- Arabic language courses for foreigners
- Music courses (Piano - Flute - Guitar - Saxophone)
- Arts courses for women (Art of Flower Making, Silk Painting, Ceramics, Painting on glass).

The registration will last on Thursday Apr. 6, 1989 and the course will start on Saturday Apr. 8, until Apr. 22, 1989.

For more information, please contact the library of the centre, telephone 636445, Amman.

Some stopped eating meat long ago

By Monte Hayes
The Associated Press

LIMA, Peru — From cab drivers to congressmen, Peruvians are asking what went wrong in this Andean nation, which faces economic chaos and a savage leftist insurgency that threatens to explode into civil war.

Peru had one of South America's strongest economies until the 1960s. But inflation hit a record 1,722 per cent last year and is expected to soar above 10,000 per cent in 1989, pushing wages down to survival levels. The economy shrank 9 per cent in 1988 and is likely to contract even more this year.

The collapse is putting hundreds of thousands of people out of work in the continent's third-largest country — and one of its poorest.

The economic collapse has hit the middle class and the poor the hardest. Purchasing power has plummeted by at least 50 per cent in the last year. A doctor at a public hospital earns the equivalent of \$80 a month. A public school teacher earns \$55. An army general's salary has fallen from \$1,100 a month in 1980 to \$200 today.

Although many blame President Alan Garcia, most independent analysts say the economic crisis has been building for decades and that Garcia's populist,

free-spending policies were simply the detonator.

14,000 dead

Attacks by the fanatical Shining Path guerrilla group also have accelerated in recent months, and the death toll from its 9-year-old insurgency has surpassed 14,000. Blackouts and bombs have become part of daily life in Lima.

"These are the days of the anonymous nocturnal bullet, of the slashing of throats of village officials, of the disappearance of union leaders," Cesar Hilderbrandt, editor of Si magazine, wrote in a recent column.

Highway bandits have begun waylaying buses and automobiles, making travel outside Lima dangerous and adding to the sense of a disintegrating nation where law and order have broken down.

Many Peruvians now speak of "the civil war that is coming," seeing it as inevitable.

"There is a very real danger that Peru, without realising it, is sinking deeper into the swamps of fratricidal war," Olga magazine warned in a recent editorial.

Surveys show most people have little faith that solutions will be found to the economic collapse or political chaos.

Garcia, a dynamic young leader, was elected in 1985 as "the president of hope." But his de-

fiant stance against paying foreign debt cut Peru off from international aid. Critics say his uncontrolled spending bankrupted the country.

Angry crowds now shout "Alan, you charlatan" when he speeds by in heavily armed convoys.

In recent months, Lima has been hit by waves of coup rumours. Many doubt the presidential election scheduled for April 1990 will take place.

Former Lima mayor Alfonso Barrantes, a Marxist, is one of the favourites in the campaign. The other front-runner is writer Mario Vargas Llosa, leader of a center-right coalition, but most polls show neither has majority support. Most of those polled say they trust none of the candidates.

"What worries me is the kind of future I am going to leave my children," said Morty Weissberg, 41, a second-generation Peruvian. "The future that this country offers is very different from the one 30 years ago when I was in the position of my children. Then there was a bright future for the country, at least apparently."

Late last year, Weissberg gave up a high-paying job as manager of a small metallurgical company and migrated with his wife and two small daughters to Canada.

150,000 emigrants

They were among 150,000 Peruvians, most of them professionals and skilled workers, who bought one-way tickets out the country in 1988, the largest exodus in Peru's history.

Many people blame the economic decline on several decades of government mismanagement, controls that have stifled private enterprise and strident nationalism that has frightened away foreign investors and isolated Peru from world financial centres.

A striking illustration of Peru's fall: in 1976 the country produced 34,000 automobiles, this year it is expected to assemble 3,500 at the most. There are no buyers for more.

But more than the somber economic future, Weissberg said what frightened him most were the country's deep class divisions and growing violence.

"It's the problem of living in a country that has a large population that is almost starving, has no means of support and is reproducing faster and faster all the time," he said.

That view is shared by many political analysts. They agree that Peru's social and racial divisions, inherited from the Spanish colonial era, have spawned class hatred that threatens to rip apart the fabric of society.



A father and his children in their home. There's a limit beyond which people can be pushed no further

The scorn and discrimination shown by the white elite toward the dark-skinned Indian and Mestizo majority has generated deep resentment among the poor, social scientists say.

Humiliation + oppression

"Political violence in Peru is not the result of poverty alone, but of humiliation, oppression, class hatred, racism," said Sen. Enrique Bernales, head of a blue-ribbon senate panel on violence.

Many Peruvian and foreign political experts say the country stands at a critical point in its history in which an antiquated, inequitable and inefficient political structure is crumbling.

"For me, the Shining Path is nothing more than the violent natural expression of this social explosion. If it had not been

Sendero, sooner or later there would have been another group," said Luis Lumbreras, one of Peru's most important archaeologists.

Lumbreras is from Ayacucho, the impoverished highland province where the Mao-inspired Shining Path — "Sendero luminoso" in Spanish — launched its insurgency in 1980, after 10 years of patient organising among Quechua-speaking Indians in the countryside.

Peru covers 1,285,216 square kilometres an area more than twice the size of France, and has a population of 21 million. But just as it is divided by class and race, it is sharply separated by geography into three regions — the Andean Sierra, the coastal deserts and the Amazon jungle — that have little in common.

Migrations

In the 1950s, highland peasants began to crowd into Lima, looking for a better life. The migration has accelerated in recent years as the countryside has turned into a battlefield.

With the Shining Path insurgency and the forced integration of Lima and other coastal cities, Peru's ruling white class has begun to feel challenged for the first time.

Lima, once the royal capital of the Spanish empire in South America, is surrounded by the bleakest shantytowns on the continent, home to two-thirds of the city's 7 million inhabitants.

The settlements look like encampments of a down-and-out invading army. Most shacks are of straw thatch, which would

wash away in a rainstorm. But Peru's bone-dry coast gets almost no rain and the highland squatters are saved from the calamity of losing their flimsy shelters.

Dorotea Sandoval lives with her husband and eight children in the shantytown of villa El Salvador, where mothers boil fish heads to give a thin broth to their children.

"We stopped eating meat a long time ago," she said.

Lima's increasingly insecure rich live behind high walls in suburbs to which entry is controlled by gates and armed guards.

Except for the pockets of the rich, Lima has a threadbare look. Many dogs sometimes mingle with the poor to dig through piles of garbage in front of deteriorating homes in middle-class neighbourhoods.

Sri Lanka: people power the election promise

By Mallika Wanigasundara

SRI LANKA — The ruling United National Party (UNP) fought the presidential election early this year at the lowest point of its popularity. Against all expectations, its candidate, Ransinghe Premadasa, was elected by a slim majority.

But within two months the UNP turned the tide in its favour and won all but two districts and 125 seats in a 225-member Parliament.

UNP projected Premadasa as a man of the people, a champion of the poor — as he hailed not from the rich, elite upper strata that has ruled the country since independence, but from the poor of the slum suburbs of Colombo.

But the one single economic platform on which the UNP swept the polls was President Premadasa's poverty alleviation scheme called Jana Saviya (People's Strength) — an unorthodox and controversial innovation.

Unlike the celebrated "trickle down" theory propounded by many economists, it is intended as a massive transfer of resources directly to the poor. It is an attempt to build up their health status and their capacity for investment in small undertakings and cottage industries.

During the next two years, 14 lakhs of families numbering around 7 million people will each receive an allowance of \$75.75 a month: half of this will be given for everyday consumption, while the balance will be held in bank accounts for the two-year period.

At the end of that time the

savings will amount to \$757 and will be made available to them for small investment projects.

Susil Sriwardena, general manager of the National Housing Development Authority and one of the main activists of the scheme, says that the consumption allowance is not a handout, but money with which the families can buy food, clothes, medicine and other essentials.

Studies have shown that almost half the Sri Lankan population is suffering from various levels of malnutrition. Children are particularly affected. President The recipients of the health scheme will all be food stamp holders, the very poor and those considered "at risk."

At the end of the two years, when the Jana Saviya entrepreneurs emerge with their small nest egg of Rs. 25,000, they will be advised on investment. Some ideas include small low-tech packages for the manufacture of energy efficient cookers, cheap lighting and deep-well water-lifting devices and biogas units.

The cost of such support schemes will run into billions of rupees.

Eliminate waste and we will find the money, says Premadasa, who is treating waste elimination as a priority.

He has set a challenge: "If the scientist and the technologist cannot eliminate poverty, unemployment and want, what need have we for such science and technology? The poor are served better by buffaloes, draught cattle and pack bulls" — Pinos.



Black students speak out after whites beat up blacks at UMass, Amherst

Study finds crimes of racism more violent than thought

By Arlene Levinson
The Associated Press

BOSTON — Crimes motivated by bigotry are more violent than previously assumed, according to a study by Northeastern University.

"The idea that a civil rights violation consists of kids painting graffiti on a church or throwing a rock through a window does not describe the type of incidents reported to the Boston police," Professor Jack McDermott wrote in his study for the center for applied social research at Northeastern University.

"More than 50 per cent of the incidents of racial violence identified in our study are acts of a very serious and potentially injury-resulting character."

The study, released Monday, examined 452 crimes reported from 1983 to 1987 and identified by the Boston Police community disorders unit as motivated by bigotry.

The crimes included whites assaulting a white boyfriend of a black female, bricks thrown through windows, a Swastika painted on a synagogue and assaults on homosexuals.

Fifty-three per cent of the crimes were categorised as physical assaults, and 47 per cent as property damage.

Howard J. Ehrlich, research director of the National Institute Against Prejudice and Violence, an independent organisation in Baltimore, called the Northeastern study "the first really decent analysis of hard data."

Such research reinforces findings of the Baltimore Institute that one out of four or five minority persons will be victimised during the course of a year,

he said.

"It's very underreported," McDermott said. "Victims fear retaliation and victims will deny it's a hate crime. If you feel you're a victim because of your religion or your colour, then each time you step out the door (you fear) you're going to be attacked."

AMONG THE FINDINGS:

— Sixty-three per cent of the racial incidents were perpetrated by whites, 33 per cent by blacks. Four per cent of such offenses were committed by people of Hispanic or Asian origin.

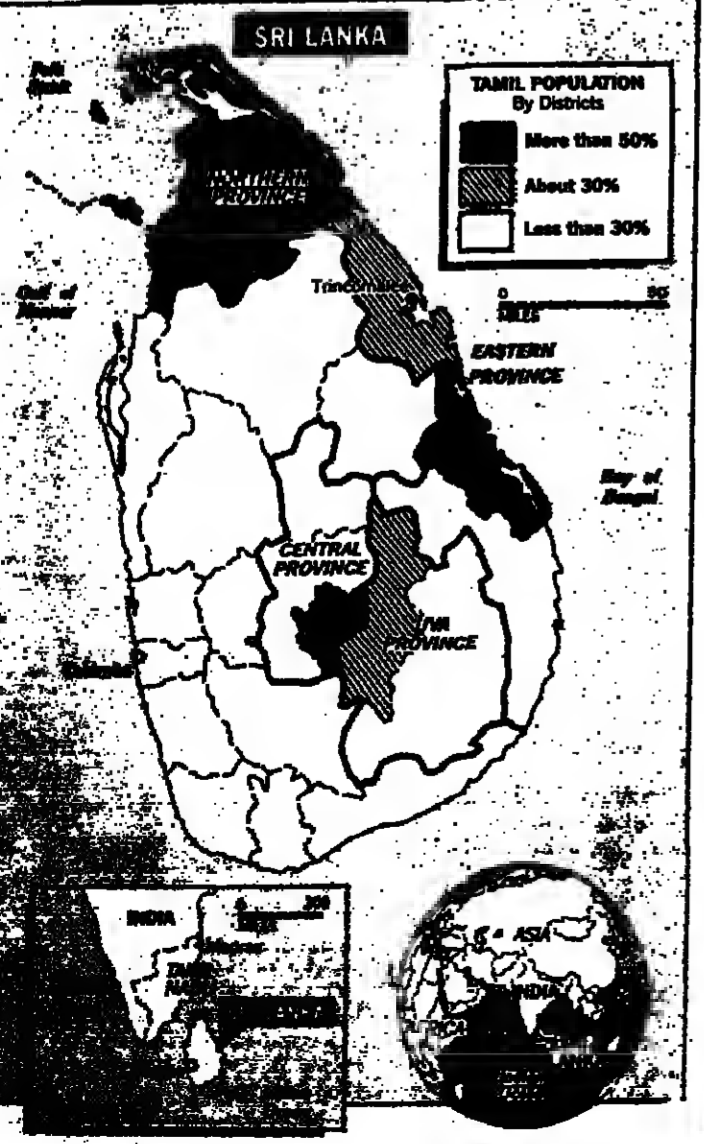
— The largest percentage of victims — 35 per cent — were white, followed by blacks, 32 per cent, Vietnamese, 12 per cent, other Asian, 11 per cent, Hispanics, including Portuguese, 7 per cent and Jews, 1 per cent. Nearly one-third of the victims were female.

— In 30 per cent of the cases, victims were told they were being attacked because they "did not belong" in a neighbourhood.

— Sixty-four per cent of the racial attacks were committed by more than one individual, and most involved four or more people ganging up against a lone victim.

Ehrlich said it's estimated that up to 70 per cent of such crimes, including verbal assaults, are never reported. But he said society can work to get rid of bigotry.

"Prejudice is learned. What confuses people is that, because it's learned so early, they believe it's innate or natural. Understanding that it's a learned attitude lets us understand that we can change attitudes," Ehrlich said.



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